JERSEY CITY

JERRAMIAH T. HEALY MAYOR



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jersey City to Showcase Its Newest Community Gardens With the 2012 Adopt-A-Lot Garden Tour

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the Division of City Planning in partnership with several community organizations are hosting the 2012 "Growing Together": Adopt-A-Lot Community Garden Tour from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 25, 2012.

The shuttle bus will be leaving the **Bright Street Community Garden**, located on Bright and Grove Sts., at **10:00 a.m.** for the tour. Pre-registration is encouraged as seats are limited. To register, please call Ivan Freire at 201-547-4513 or email freirei@jcnj.org

This year's tour will meet at 10 am at Bright Street Community Garden between Bright St and Grove St. The tour will include the following:

10:20-10:35 am: UMMI Community Garden, 91 Harrison Avenue

10:45-11:15 am: Blossoming Ivy & Project GREAT Community Garden, 528-530 Ocean

Ave.

11:25-11.40 am: OUR Community Garden, corner of Clinton Ave. and Crescent Ave.

11:50-12:15 pm: Lafayette Community Garden, 312 Pacific Ave.

12:20-12:30 pm: Bright St Community Garden for closing dedication ceremony

The garden tour concludes the **2012** "Growing Together" Adopt-A-Lot Community Garden Program, which provides City-owned vacant land for residents to build community gardens on, and it provides programming and material support to existing community gardens.

The program kicked-off with the **2012 "Growing Together" Adopt-A-Lot Garden Competition.** The award ceremony was held on August 22, 2012 at Hamilton Park. Last year, there were a handful of individuals who submitted garden entries. This year, there was an overwhelming response and there were almost 40 gardens submitted, plus the community gardeners who participated.

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"All the gardens involved in the competition are winners," said **Mayor Healy**. "These gardens continue to beautify Jersey City and make it a greener place to live. I am grateful for the gardeners and communities who came together in this great effort to make Adopt-A-Lot a success."

The following are the winners of the community garden categories:

- Most Sustainable Garden: Blossoming Ivy Community Garden
- Best Vegetable Garden: Clinton Avenue Community Garden
- Most Artistic Garden: Lafayette Community Garden
- Best Park Garden: Washington Park Learning Garden
- Best School Garden: Learning Community Charter School
- **Best Community Involvement Garden** (tie): Project GREAT Community Garden and The Bright Street Community Garden

The following are the winners of the individual garden categories:

- Best Community Service Garden: Jersey City Heights Condominium
- **Best Tree Planter**: Victor Sison
- **Best Back Yard Garden (tie)**: Bill Mitchell & Jeff Halpern; and Graham Blackman-Harris
- **Best Front Yard Garden**: Melanie and Tom Percy
- Best Stoop Garden: Paul Amatuzzo and Gib Westby-Gibson
- **People's Choice**: Jeffrey Bauer
- The Donald Kummerfeld Memorial Award: Jan A. Nordland

The Donald Kummerfeld award is dedicated to one of the pioneers in community gardening in Jersey City and will be presented each year to someone who is carrying the torch in either community gardening, park preservation or otherwise outstanding volunteer gardening/greening. This year, the award went to Jan Nordland, an active member of the Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association who spends countless hours beautifying that park, Enos Jones Park and parks and gardens throughout the city.

Photos from the award ceremony, including the winning gardens are available on <u>Jersey City's</u> <u>Facebook page</u>.

(https://www.facebook.com/GrowingTogetherAdoptALotCommunityGardenContest).

For more information please visit http://jc365daysofgreen.wix.com/adopt-a-lot_program#!
All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///